SOUTH CAROLINA.

CORRUPTION IN EVERY DEPARTMENT OF

THE GOVERNMENT. A SITUATION THAT CANNOT BE PAINTED TOO BLACK -CRIMES AND SHORT-COMINGS OF THE EXECU-TIVE, LEGISLATURE, AND JUDICIARY-OFFICES SOLD, JUDGES BRIBED, AND LEGISLATURES UT-TERLY CORRUPT - EDUCATION PROSTRATE -SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS WHO CANNOT READ AND WRITE, AND SCHOOL FUNDS STOLEN-THE PROSPECT FOR REFORM-ISSUES OF THE PEND-ING CAMPAIGN.

IFROM THE SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE. CHARLESTON, S. C., Sept. 17 .- In his frank state ment of opinion to the representative of THE TRIB-UNE, heretofore published, Gen. Chamberlain, the Republican candidate for Governor of South Carolina, remarked that "things are not so bad as they are generally painted." Herein I think the General' bonest soul deceived him. That the Government of South Carolina is corrupt and that the people are oppressed is universally believed, but I have seen no picture of the South Carolina of to-day that brings out in colors too strong the knavery pervading every department of the Government under the administration of Govs. Scott and Moses. To publish in detail the items of which one learns in a week's sojourn in Columbia and Charleston, it would be necessary to fill every column of a triple-sheet TRIBUNE. But here are some of the conclusion drawn from conversations with men of all partiesthe accusers and the accused-and stated as concisely as the facts will allow.

THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT.

This department is now and has been since Recon struction shamelessly venal and corrupt. Gov Scott bribed the Legislature to pass every act by which the public debt was increased or burdens imposed upon the people. The increase of the State debt during his two terms of four years was about \$15,000,000, and the excess of taxes over necessary expenses was about \$2,000,000 more. Gov. Moses has not increased the bonded debt of the State for the best of all reasons-the credit of the State has become so low that no one would purchase its bonds; but he has sold public offices, levied blackmail upon officers, stolen the contingent fund for two years, received large sums of money from claims passed by the Legislature, and has generally been so lewd, unprincipled, and dishonest as to make the rascally administration of Scott, his predecessor, comparatively respectable. About \$3,600,000 have been collected from the people during the last two years for State purposes; the amount levied for the counties is over \$1,000,000 more. These vast sums have all been paid out, and still a large floating debt, contracted within the time named, remains due to the creditors of the State and the several counties. About 1,000 criminals have been pardoned by the two Governors, although many of them were convicted of the blackest crimes, committed without any extenuating circomstances. On the whole, the Executive office has been prostituted for partisan, sordid, and selfish ends, and the administrations of Scott and Moses are to-day absolutely without apologists. It is probable that Moses is no worse than Scott, but the crimes of Moses have been committed in an open defiance of decency and reckless disregard of consequences which have caused many of his friends to entertain serious doubts as to his sanity, whatever evidence be may have given of a brilliant intellect. Driven from the Gubernatorial chair by the votes of many who shared in his villainy he proposes to reënter public life as a legislator and he and Congressman Elliott will be candidates for the Speakership of the House of Dele gates and Chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means of the same body-places now sought only for the opportunities of plunder which they afford-

THE JUDICIARY. Three Justices of the Supreme Court, Circuit Judges, Probate Judges, and Trial Justices constitute the present judiciary of South Carolina. The Constitution provides for the election of Justices of the Peace in the several counties, and makes it incumbent on the Legislature to prescribe by law the mode and time of election. Six years have pass and this matter has been wholly neglected. Instead of obeying the mandate of the organic law, the Assembly passed an act authorizing the Governor to appoint Trial Justices, allowing them in some cases large salaries, to be paid by the counties, and in others enormous fees, derived from the same source. A few of these Trial Justices are honest and capable men, but a large majority of them are ignorant rapacious, and notoriously corrupt. Many cannot write anything more than their own names, a few cannot write at all; the preliminary education of a large class has been obtained in the cotton field or on the rice plantation. They are the bane of the State-a nuisance that cannot be too soon or summarily abated. The Probate Judges are the only judicial officers who are elected by the people, and there has been less complaint about them than any other of the judicial class. They are generally men of only moderate abilities, but as a rule are fair-minded and try to be honest. There is one in each county. The Circuit Judges, eight in number, are elected by the General Assembly. They are all native white men, except Judge Carpenter of the Columbia Circuit, who is classed with the carpet-baggers, but commands respect as not only a consistent Republican, but an honest man and able lawyer. None of them ever held any judicial position before the war. With two or three exceptions they are not regarded as very able men; but with a single exception none has been charged with corruption. On the whole, the Circuit bench is about as good as could have been expected from the material before the Legislature, and better than could have been expected from the composition of the electing body. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, Judge Moses, is the father of the present Governor. He has been ac cused of taking bribes, but I have not found proof to sustain the accusation. His son, however, has a great influence over him, and the truth seems to b that in matters in which the Governor has a per sonal interest the Chief-Justice always finds the law to be on that side. Judge Willard was a lawyer of good repute in New-York before he entered the army and is a man of fair parts and pecuniarily honest. Judge Wright, the remaining Associate dustice, is a negro without experience or learning. It is freely charged that he is often influenced by pecuniary considerations in his decisions. story goes that there is a feud between Judges Moses and Willard, or a constitutional difference in structure of mind, which causes them nearly always to disagree. Judge Wright then has the casting vote, and he is said to place it at a very high valuation. He has become wealthy and aristocratic. As a court these men do not command respect, and are far from being above reproach. THE LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

Like the Executive Department the General Assembly is, and has been since 1808 utterly corrupt. There are and have been all the time a few honest men in it, but the majority have received bribes for the passage of any act whose provisions benefited anybody but themselves. It may be said without fear of denial, that in this way has been passed every act which has added to the burdens of the people, or incorporated any private enterprise. The enormous sums-amounting annually to hundreds of thousands of dollars-paid to the Republican Printing Company, were in great part paid to members of the General Assembly. They would pass no act incorporating a bank, or railway, or manufact turing company, or to pay any debt due to any per son nuless they were paid for their votes. has been carried to such an extent that the Chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means of the House demanded to be paid for reporting a joint resolution to pay himself and his brother members, and the price paid was \$15,000. There is no act of corruption and malfeasance in office that these public robbers have not committed. To descend from big items to a little one, I may mention that a Republican told me that he had to pay the member from his own county \$25 for simply presenting a hill allowing the building of a public wharf in the town in which the snember himself lived. No United States Senator | Pelaluma, Cat., Sept. 16, 1874.

from South Carolina has taken his seat since the war with his hands absolutely clean of bribery, and the place has always been for sale to the highest bidder. All this knavery cannot be charged to the colored carpet-baggers (though as a class their guilt is great), because there have been from the beginning about three natives to one Northern man in the Assembly; nor can it be charged to the whites alone, for the preponderance is in about the same proportion. The negroes have been apt scholars in the school of Pubhic Plunder, and not a few have grown rich by rob bery, while many more have stolen only to lose by gambling or extravagance. The character of the Legislature is the worst feature of the sad plight of South Carolina. Better things are hoped for, but it is hoping against hope.

EDUCATION.

I cannot run through the catalogue of crimes com mitted by petty officers of every class throughout the State; suffice it to say that the example of the Governors and legislators has been followed but too closely. There is another matter, however, which should be noticed in this letter, and that is the unsatisfactory condition of the educational interests of the State. I had been led to believe that in whatever else the negro might fall short, his love for knowledge born with his emancipation could not suffer an eclipse. No doubt this is true in many cases, but the negroes who have become office holders in South Carolina are as fairly chargeable with keeping their fellows in ignorance as were the slaveholders themselves, whose laws indeed prohibited schools for the slaves, but who nevertheles did sometimes give them instruction at home. Am ple provision is made in the Constitution and stat utes for funds sufficient to instruct all the childre of the State; taxes are levied and collected for that specific purpose; but a large part of the fund systematically stolen by the Executive and Legislative Departments, and the rest is so misapplied that little good is done. There are twenty-two School Commissioners, with a salary of \$1,000 each; few of whom give any attention to the office beyond drawing their salaries when the money happens to be in the State Treasury, and appointing unworthy favorites to positions; and several of whom cannot read and write. In many instances the natural result follows; the teachers are ignorant, unprincipled, and brutal, and the soms raid for instruction are thrown away. Frands of the most alarming character have grown up ir. the management of the schools; certificates of service have been given without schools having been taught, and duplicate certificates given almost as often. It is impossible to estimate the amount of the spurious claims now outstanding against the State. They probably reach \$200,000 or \$300,000. The State Superintendent, Dr. Jilson, is a man of learning and honesty, but he can do little with such a mass of stupidity and corruption as the Com missioners appointed by the Governor. THE PROSPECT FOR REFORM.

True reform in the State Government is a contin

gency so remote that it is hard to contemplate it a practicable matter. Honest men in either party have such fearful odds against them! In both parties there are prejudices which it seems impossible to overcome. Some of the Republicans who join in the cry of "Down with the thieves," are as knavish as any thief in the lot; some of the Conservatives have touched "the accursed thing," and others are eage for a chance to lay their own hands upon it. With a great many in both parties the object in view is not so much a change of government as a change of men. The mass of the voters on one side would give Moses the Governorship perpetually rather than trust an old slaveholder or ex-Rebel in his place and on the other side thousands have no faith whatever in the honesty of any prominent South Carolina Republican, and would not support one whom they cannot expect to turn the Government over to them The honest negroes in the late Columbia Convention were not those who were loudest in the denunciation of Chamberlain; the voices of such were hardly heard at all. Nor is honest government the paramount aim of the Reform Repub licans who are about to hold a mass meeting in the interest of John P. Green. Personal feeling is at the bottom of the Republican opposition to Chamberlain, and Judge Green is the candidate of that opposition merely because they think they will find in him a stick to break the head of the Columbia in him a stick to break the head of the Columbia nominee. I believe Chamberlain is as honest as Green, and I know as many honest Republicans support the one as the other, while the superior ability of Chamberlain must be generally conceded. But Chamberlain's past associations are against him, and the Conservatives of South Carolina cannot be induced to acquit him of a share in the crimes of his associates, nor to believe that he will free himself from their influence. Hence they are no doubt right in nursing the movement in favor of Green. Better than the election of either Chamberlain or Green would be that of Gen. ither Chamberlain or Green would be that of Ge J. B. Kershaw—a man above reproach, honest, highminded, liberal, progressive, and acknowledged by
all to be such; but the Republicans will not touch
him because of his associations with the old regime,
and some Conservatives whisper that they fear "he
is a little too liberal." So, from the present outlook
the people are likely to have to choose between Chamberlain and Green. Either will be an improvement
upon Scott and Moses; but whether either can make
any progress towards reform with such a Legislature as will be returned is a question involving
much doubt. The South Carolinians cannot do better in the approaching campaign than devote all
their energies to the nomination and election of
honest men to the General Assembly; with proper
efforts, if not a majority a number sufficient to sustain the veto of an honest Governor can be secured;
and here lies for the present the best field for the
exertions of a union of good men for good government in the Prostrate State. . B. Kershaw-a man above reproach, honest

A GRANGER'S NOTIONS OF BANKING.

A PAPER CURRENCY WITHOUT A COIN BASIS-NO MORE MINTS.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: I wish to present what I call the Granger's plan of banking : I. For a trafficking people like that of the United States

circulating medium is a necessity, in order to facili

tate the transaction of business. II. This circulating medium should be something that sourcent in all parts of the country, among all of the

people, and it will be proper to call it currency. III. This corrency should be made of some materia that is of little value in itself, so that if it is lost in any vay, there will be a minimum quantity of human labo wasted; and it must be light and easily transported

from place to place with facility and little expense. IV. The value of this currency must depend upon the oner and ability of the party issuing it.

V. Paper, properly executed, will answer the first thre

VI. The people of the United States are able to fulfill the conditions of the (ourth demand and be great . How shall it be done ! VII. The Government shall make one uniform cur-

rency of convenient denominations for business and establish banks in every State and Territory according to the needs of the people, where this currency can be obtained by those who give the proper security for the

obtained by those who give the proper security for the same.

VIII. This currency shall be lent to every one who will give the proper security, and the interest shall not be over four per cent per annum to begin with, and be gradually reduced as the Government gets out of debt, so as to furnish only revenue enough to pay the expenses of the Government, say two per cent.

IX. This currency shall not be called in until the borrowers wish to pay it, provided the security is good and the inferest promptly paid.

owers wish to pay it, provided the security is good and he interest promptly paid.

X. This currency shall be lawful money to pay all lebts, salaries, fees, taxee, &c., contracted after the sauking bill is passed, except Custom-hone duties, which shall be paid in gold until we get our gold debts said in full; then gold and silver shall become councilled in full; then gold and silver shall become councilled in the same shall be paid in gold until we get our gold debts said in full; then gold and silver shall become councilled in the same shall be paid to gold and silver shall become councilled in our markets like other motals.

XI. We will dispense with all of our mints except one, which we will keep to coin some gold, if it is necessary, to pay our debts-that call for gold coin; and when the gold debts already contracted are paid we will contract to more; then, of course, we will have no more use for oning mints.

wining mints.

XII. Any person can change this currency into United States bonds, which will draw about one-eighth per cent less interest than the Government receives for cur-

This plan if adopted will work against monop This plan if adopted will work against monopoles; I will give every person an equal chance under the law will help the Government pay its debts, help many; family in moderate circumstances to give their childrer a good education at the proper age without burdening themselves with too much labor or incumbering their property with exorbitant interest and sadden payment it will put an end to money crisis. It will place interes on such a basis that there will be no need of any usury laws. It will induce many private bankers to investigate many property is such manufacturing, establishments as place the country greater and more permanent than ever wa prosperity greater and more permanent than ever wa known in any other country. The laws against country fetting and all kinds of thieving must be much mor FEERMAN PARKER.

THE PRINCE OF WALES.

HAS HE ANY DEBTS!

THEIR EXISTENCE DENIED BY A PROMINENT LONDO JOURNAL-POPULAR BELIEF ON THE SUBJECT. FROM THE REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE. LONDON, Sept. 17 .- In The Daily Telegraph of this norning appears the following remarkable para-

Various reports have lately appeared in print to the ffect that debts have been contracted by the Prince of Vales. It has been stated that Mr. Gladstone was re nested to bring the matter before Parliament, but declined; that Mr. Disraeli was to be asked to do so; and finally, that Her Majesty had paid off these amounts. Mr. P. A. Taylor, the member for Leicester, has even addressed his constituents on the subject. We are enabled o assert that there is not a single word of truth in any

of the above statements. This is invested with all the solemnity that can be given to it by editorial type, and occupies what is perhaps the most conspicuous place in an English osper, immediately following the leaders or leader paragraphs-a place consecrated by custom to important announcements or brief statements based on special intelligence. And it is, so far as I know, the first declaration of any kind on this matter of the Prince's debts which has appeared in any leading London paper, or any daily paper whatever, except a paragraph copied from The World last week into The Daily News, and a paragraph in The Echo commenting upon the other. It is, therefore, of great significance, but it seems to me that it says either too much or too little-too much unless every word of it can resist criticism, and, if it can, too little to

satisfy public inturest. It may in any case, I think, be assumed that this statement cannot be a final one; not final, although it is also to be taken for granted that it is put forward by The Daily Telegraph in perfect good faithin a faith not less perfect than that in which the same journal proclaimed in 1872 the imminent outbreak of a fresh war between France and Germany, in which it published the letters of Mr. David Ker, or in which it prematurely announced the Fall of Khiva. Nobody ever suspected The Daily Telegraph of being consciously a party to the deception of which in those cases it was made the instrument, and, in common with the public, the victim. The fact, however, that it was duped in those case suggests ithe possibility that it might in other cases also be a sufferer from imposition, or in putting imposition aside-as most unlikely herelend too ready an ear to a story which squares with its own wishes and the wishes of all loyal Englishmen. For my part, I am as willing as anybody to believe what The Daily Telegraph alleges. have never fathered any reports about the Prince's debts, and am free from any paternal sentiments in respect to them. When I first mentioned the reports, I said expressly that they were reports only. and that I could not vouch for them, and I have taken pains since to free myself from any responsi bility for what might, after all, be only gossip, though it circulated pretty much everywhere and was apparently believed by very serious persons. The only thing that concerns me is to know what i frue and what is not, and in reading this paragraph it is impossible not to make some reflections.

You will perceive how broad the contradiction is The Telegraph denies everything; denies that Mr. Gladstone was requested to bring the matter of the debts before Parliament, denies that Mr. Disraeli was to be asked to do so, denies that the queen ha paid the debts; denies, finally, that debts have been contracted by the Prince of Wales. It makes these denials as of its own knowledge, saying "we are enabled to assert that there is not a single word of truth in any of the above statements." It gives no authority, does not say it "understands," or "has eason to believe" or "has been requested to say," but plumply "asserts" the falsehood of all the storie on information which "enables" it to pledge its own word. Yet, if this contradiction be in fact well founded, it must be supposed that at least one of the royal personages concerned desired it to be made If that be so, why should it have been communicated to The Daily Telegraph and not to The Times !-unles we are to suppose that The Times refused to publish it. Taking the paragraph as it now stands in The Daily Telegraph, there can be but one sufficient authority for the whole of it, viz., the Prince of Wales. No body but him can assert positively all four of the propositions contained in it. But the Prince of Wales has been for some weeks on the Continent, was at Berlin on the 2d inst., later at Baden, and yesterday at Kiel, whence he departed at 6 o'clock in the evening for Copenhagen. Are we to suppose that the editor of The Daily Telegraph has been in correspondence with the Prince of Wales, and assured by his Royal Highness that he has contracted no debts? so, it might then be open to The Daily Telegraph to assume that all the statements based on the posed existence of the debts were false. If th Prince is not the authority, then Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Disraeli, and the Queen must have separately authorized the statements affecting separately each one of them-neither in such case being able to speak of his or her own knowledge for the other: still less to affirm that the Prince has contracted no debts. Mr. Gladstone happens to be paying a visit to Dr. Döllinger at Munich, Mr. Disraeli is in the North, and the Queen is at Balmoral. Has a corre spondence been going on between them too and The

Daily Telegraph ? We must take some account also of The World. That paper first published an account of the debte and the proposed means of paying them. It is a weekly paper, and devoted two articles to the subject in two successive weeks. The third week it declared itself able to state that the Prince's debts had been paid by the Queen, adding the information respecting the application to Mr. Gladstone about them. This was in contradiction of its general in formation that the debts still existed, and are to be paid by an application to Parliament through Mr. Disraeli. From what source, then, did The World necept its contradiction ? A journal is not in the habit of retracting its statements unless upon satisfactory authority. Which are we to suppose has been misled, The World or The Telegraph? And are we further to suppose that all London, which has discussed the Prince's debts for some months, not to say years past, had no foundation whatever for its almost universal belief? I know of my own knowledge of one eminent merchant who de clined to supply Marlborough House on the ground that he could not afford to wait for his money. Was he likely to refuse a lucrative custom, leading to much other custom, without knowing something about the matter? Would Mr. P. A. Taylor, a Member of Parliament, and liable to be questioned in the House about it, address his constituents on the subject, in reliance on mere gossip ? If The Daily Telegraph had contented itself with denying that Parliament is to be asked to pay the Prince's debts, there would have been no great difficulty in accepting the denial. Nor would it have taxed public credulity to believe that Her Majesty had not herself paid them, though I may say here, that a friend wrote me the other day he believed the Queen did really furnish the money last year. But I fear that London will require something more than the naked assertion of The Daily Telegraph before it gives in its faith to the allegation that the Prince has contracted no debts. I need not point out that should the fact turn out to be as people have supposed. The Daily Telegraph will have succeeded in putting the Prince in an awkward position-not to speak of itself. The matter cannot rest where it is. It has reached such publicity as can be given to it by "the largest circulation in the world." That small portion of mankind which does not read The Daily Telegraph is a sadly skeptical multitude, and even those who do read it, having now heard of the reports, may like to know on what authority they are con-

Apropos of all which an anecdote not wholly nev has just been related to me. The Prince was travelin France, and at a station where the Paris train stops for refreshments bought a cake, bit a piece out of it, left it, threw the waiter a Napoleon, and went his royal way. The waiter was well satisfied with his share in the transaction, repeated the tale to admiring hearers, and for the convincing of the in-

credulous, put the cake under a glass cover. The next train brought more Englishmen who, observing a fragment of cake thus carefully put away, asked about it, and when told, could hardly do less than fee the lucky waiter who told them. One of them. more loyal than the rest, bought the cake with its marks of princely teeth. The waiter was a man of genius. He bit a piece out of another cake, put that under the same glass cover, and showed and sold that cake to the next passengers, and so on for some days-perhaps to this day. Do you wonder that the Prince's debts are a topic of engrossing interest?

NOTES FROM GERMANY.

G. W. S.

OBSERVANCE OF THE ANNIVERSARY OF SEDAN AS A NATIONAL HOLIDAY-MERITS OF THE GERMAN

POSTAL SRRVICE.

ROM THE REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.] BERLIN, Sept. 3.—The Germans made yesterday the first public experiment of the anniversary of Sedan as a National boliday. The Roman Catholics had endeavored to discredit the demonstration, and their efforts even led them to accept the alliance of the Social Democrats, and to issue pastoral letters breathing the most virulent hatred of the new Empire. The result of all this is that the celebration was perhaps more successful than it would otherwise have been. The telegrams from the interior cities-Cologne, Munich, Dresden, Breslaushow that the people participated very generally in the spirit and exercises of the occasion. At severa places war monuments were uncovered, with the usual amount of oratory and music; at others, there vere military reviews, the best feature of a German holiday; while at others, local patriotism found utterance in club reunions, excursions, and picnics Here at Berlin we had all three. We had the mont ment and the oratory, the review of the Guards and the plebeian amusements. The presence of the Prince of Wales lent, of course, additional éclat to the review. He wore the scarlet of the British army like the victor of an hundred battle-fields, and even the German soldiers seemed a little embarrassed in the presence of such a famous officer But he is a man of good nature, and is popular. If he has never fleshed his maiden sword, he conducts himself with corresponding modesty, and has none of the fussy martinet style of King Wilhelm's veterans. The Prince and his sister, the German Crown Princess, kept with each other with a sym pathy very touching in the eyes of those who know nothing of the true relations between them. But the two, it is said, live in a sort of armed truce The Prince has not spared his sister from the delicate wittieisms which are the delight of London clubs; and she, being a woman of sobriety and pronounced moral and intellectual views, has, of course, a lofty contempt for the vagaries of her brother. The Prussian queens have often been persons of marked individuality. The Crown Princess Victoria is already a theologian as well as a politician; though, for the rigid orthodox standard that her predecessors always maintained, she will sub stitute a skepticism which early impression grounded, and David Strauss and Renan have kept fresh and progressive.

After the parade yesterday, which was very fine, ve had flags, beer, choruses, State opera, and illuminations. The latter were poor and cheap. The Berliner has very little judgment in the picturesque The prosaic state of the city would alone prove this; and it must be added that, if the population ever had fine instincts, the new tendency that late victories have given to everything has destroyed them and left in their place a passion for wealth. The appearance of the city has undergone great changes. A taste for outward show has supplanted the old German solidity. The new houses are shabbily and gaudily built. Professors are becoming bankers and soliticians. The population is gradually changing from one in which seriousness, culture, and a noble simplicity of desires prevailed to one of schemers and speculators. The question of celebrating the Sedan anniversary was therefore reduced with them to one of eating and drinking, and the best, most rational features of such a demonstration were ignored. It must be said, of course, that the best part of the population is still absent in the mountains or at the baths. The court, the military, and the proletariat

divided the bonors of the day. It appears that Gov. Jewell, Postmaster-General, looked into the German postal system when he was here. If so, he undoubtedly found that in our own service there's yet much room for improvement. He may be able to devise some arrangement by which, in the future, it will be possible to send a city letter across New-York in less than 24 hours. A man can send a letter to a friend in any part of Berlin and obtain an answer the same day; nor is this all. Two persons who live in the same postal district-and these districts are much more numerous here than in America—can exchange letters two ous here than in America—can exchange letters two or three times in the same day. The explanation is this. Every branch office in Berlin is also a distribution office. There are about thirty of them in a population less than that of New-York. Letters deposited in a branch office for a destination within the same district are not forwarded to the General Office, but distributed at once. The collections from the street boxes and distributions are made every hour, so that if I drop a letter into a box it is taken up within the hour, and within the next hour delivered by a carrier. It is no uncommon thing to receive a city letter an hour or two after it was posted. Can the American Post-Office Department show as good a city letter an hour or two are it was persent ex-the American Post-Office Department show as goo a record as that? Gov. Jewell may also have of served, not only at Berlin, but at other Europea cities, that the mails are not ordinarily carted abou the city in open express wagons, wherefrom the bas occasionally fall off into the mud and play othe

the city in open express wagons, wherenom the bass occasionally fall off into the mud and play other strange freaks, but in iron wagons specially built for the purpose, with locks to which the driver himself has no key. These little vehicles receive the mails for transportation from the general office to the branch offices and rice erra. The whole day they are flying about the city, and so well is the work done that, as I have said, city letters are delivered in an hour or two after posting, and foreign letters equally soon after the arrival of trains.

Mr. Bancrott Davis and Mrs. Davis have arrived, and are at the Hotel Royal. The new Minister was presented to the Emperor a few days ago, and yesterday the Empress received Mrs. Davis. Just now the office of the Legation is at the house of Mr. Fish, the Secretary, and will doubtless remain there till a suitable place is found. There is a great scarcity of houses adapted to such purposes at Berlin. Mr. Davis is now engaged in house hunting, and I understand that, as soon as permanent quarters are found, he will again leave Berlin for a short time for purposes of rest and recuperation.

INDUSTRIAL PROGRESS. The National Federation of Associated Employers of Labor is appealing to employers for aid in England. It assails the Trade Unions in this fashion:

The Federation has been formed in consequence of the extraordinary development, oppressive action, farreaching, but openly-avowed designs and elaborate organization of the trade unions. Its object is, by a defensive organization of the employers of labor, to resist these designs so far as they are hostile to the interests of the employers, the freedom of non-unionist operatives, and the well-being of the community. Trade unions are numerous, compact, have large rescurees, and great influence. They have a well-paid and ample staff of leaders, most of them experienced in the conduct of strikes, many of them skillful as organizers, all forming a class or profession apart, with interests distinct from though not necessarily antagonistic to, those of the workpeople they lead; but, from their very raison direc, hostile to those of the employers and the rest of the community. The inducements of their position to keep the industrial world in a state of cironic confusion are almost irresistable, and the natural consequence is, that they are incessantly engaged in keeping the relations between employers and employed in a state of irritation and hostility, and in fomenting disastisfaction with all the laws which are intended to protect the employer, the employed, and especially the non-unionist, from their overbearing interference.

The Loiseau process, by which fuel is made from coal dust, is to be applied on a large scale in Philadelphina next Winter. The manner in which the coal The National Federation of Associated Employe

the Loiseau process, by which tuef is made from coal dust, is to be applied on a large scale in Phila delphia next Winter. The manner in which the coal dust is treated and rendered suitable for use has been already described at length in The Tribune The correspondent of a Philadelphia paper give the following particulars of the working of smaller machine than that previously described: "A small practice has been put up at a machine shore." the following particulars of the washing of smaller machine than that previously described:

"A small maching has been put up at a machine shop in Mauch Chunk, where I have had the opportunity of observing the mode of manufacture. I saw Mr. Loiseau fill a pail with 19 pounds of coal waste, to which he added one pound of clay, making only five per cent of the latter. To this he added a small amount of milk of lime—a simple solution of common lime and water. These were thoroughly mixed for a few moments in a wooder vessel which had been an iee-cream freezer. The mixture was then placed in a hopper over a compressing roller having on its outer surface haft-gg-shaped concavities. The machine was set in motion, and immediately, the lumps of fuel began to fail on the floor at the bottom of it. I saw some of these lumps taken immediately, without any drying or other preparation, and placed upon an antiractic fire in a blacksmith's shop, where a blast made the heat most intense. It ignited immediately, without any cracking or fracture, and burned perfectly, retaining its shape until entirely consumed."

ART IN FRANCE.

BAUDRY'S PAINTINGS FOR THE NEW OPERA. DECORATIONS OF THE FOYER PUBLIC-A TRANSITION FROM HEAVEN TO EARTH-WHAT SOME CRITICS SAY OF BAUDRY'S METHODS.

PARIS, Aug., 31 .- Arriving Bostonians will find Parisians since Wednesday in their best Athenian mood. The new thing worthily exciting their lively interest, the foremost theme with their ingenious talkers and writers, is the great work of Paul Baudry, now on exhibition at the Ecole des Beaux Arts. It consists of the paintings executed by him for the Foyer Public of the new Opera. Here is the product of ten years labor of love with brain and brush, revealed in 33 canvases of an aggregate area of more than 500 square yards, on which are depicted in action or repose, with due accessories of landcape and other figures, 240 divine and human forms; for all this the man has been paid in money of the realm, 140,000 francs-say roundly \$56 per square yard, \$76 the figure, \$2,800 yearly salary, \$7 50 a day. Had be been willing to work by the day and for the demand of the day in these ten years, Baudry might easily now be a millionnaire, with the best of himself laid by. Already at the early age of 35 his paintings had earned him, beside the Legionary Cross and membership of the Institute and suffrages of critical appreciators, high popular reputation and a dangerously tempting surety of orders at his own prices. In portraiture alone, the pecuniarily most profitable department of art-trade (one in which after the death of Flandrin and Ingres, and the decline of Ricard, no one who remembers his Guizot or Beulé, or has seen his Garvier, will be apt to say that he has a living French superior) a gold mine lay open to him. But he seems readier to work for love than for money. The small portrait of Ed. About, who writes the descriptive catalogue of the present exhibition, and the remarkable life-size one of Garnier, the architect of the New Opera-the only specimens of his art seen at the Salon of late yearswere friendly gifts to friends. Among the pictures now exposed at the Beaux Arts some of the finest are also beautifully characteristic illustrations of Baudry's relative estimate of art for art and of art for

The Foyer is some 150 feet long by 40 broad, with a

hight to the plane ceiling of 60 feet. The curved

space between the plane ceiling and the vertical wall is divided into 12 carvings, one at either end and five on either side. On the side of the hall toward the place de l'Opera are five windows, to which converge five doors on the inner side ; at each end is a door of communication with an adjoining smaller room. The engagement with Baudry primarily was that he should decorate only the curves and the ten places above the doors and windows. But his thoughts and generous ambition grew at view of the rare oppor tunity for their large expression, and he obtained from his friend, the architect, the grant of the ceiling and of the eight side spaces between the windows and doors, that is, successfully importuned him to "throw in" 200 square yards to be painted without asking any change in the pecuniary terms of the original contract. Bandry divided the plane ceiling into a parallellogram of 45 by 32 feet, and two ovals of 18 by 13 feet. Here he puts forth the central idea of his whole composition and strikes his keynote of color. In the middle of the parallellogram, Harmony and Melody, two gracious sister forms, one in flowing drapery of blue, the other of light green, rise lightly in the air; to their right, Poesy, purple-clothed, gold-crowned, is borne triumphant on swift Pegasus; on the left, Fame in glowing red flies all abroad with upraised laurel wreath and trumpet in either hand; about a balustrade recalling the architecture of the hall, young geniuses sport amid Spring-in fountains and flowers. In one of the ovals is Tragedy, draped in red, seated on the sacred tripod, with blade in hand, lightnings from a storm-torn sky blazing about her head; at her feet, an eagle, bird of violence and blood, spreads out his wings over the earth; below, are Terror, on the right, in pale violet drapery; on the left, kneeling, Pity, with raised suppliant hands, robed in black. This lowest note in his scale of coloring is made acceptable where it is, but promises admirable effects that can only be appreciated when the whole composition is seen together. A Fury with distorted features and disheveled hair, armed with torch and dagger, seems rushing down on you In the corresponding oval, the blind muse of Comedy laughs while she scourges a faun which she is stripping of his sham lion's skin; Love flies laughing past through the blue air, while Wit shoots his

arrows at the luckless faun.

idea or central motive by universal emblems, we come to Earth and his twelve elaborations or variations of it in the historical or semi-historical paintings. But here again, as the architect leads our eye from the horizontal plane of the ceiling to the verti cal plane of the walls by these gently curved lines, so his comrade artist does not let us tumble at once to earth and its idealized realities, but prepares us a cunningly graded descent at either end of the hall. Here it is Parnassus; there it is the creative Poets, primary civilizers of humanity. The two curved spaces at the ends of the ceiling being larger than the five on either side, the painter reserved one of these places of honor for Apollo, god of light and poesy, the Graces and the Muses of his court, the fountain Hippocrene, On one side Erato whispers Mozart, and Mercury is introducing Meyerbeer, Rossini, Auber, and other illustrious dead. In the opposite corner, but modestly looking in, the artist has sketched himself, his friend Garnier, and his brother A. Bandry, one of the sub-architects of the Opera. This, judging from bare letter-press description, you might think was dropping us to the ground with a thump. Not at all. The transition is made easy by a subtile eatculation (not conceit) in color, which passes here toward the "sober and strong tint of the frescoes of the old masters." As the mind passes by these two largest of the twelve pictures, with their semisymbolism, from the emblems of the abstract idea in those of the ceiling to the historical representations in the other ten, so the eye sinks pleasantly from the splendors of the ceiling past the still bright draperies and glowing lights preserved in the middle parts of these two, to the prevailing quieter tone of the other ten. In these the object is to show the powers of music and the dance in their variety of kinds and effects. Thus martial music is presented by the Attack, a fiercely spirited battle piece; religious muste by the vision of St. Cecilia, about whose bed, and in the air above, angels are making heavenly concert; pastoral music by a beautiful pasalort ceue. The different powers of music are shown in the Orpheus and Eurydice, in the Saul and David. Of this last Charles Blane writes: "I remember that having gone some years ago to Baudry's atelier to see some superb copies done at Rome from Michael Angelo, and in England from the celebrated cartoons of Raphael, we heard a connoisseur ask if this picture of Saul and David, which was along with the copies we had come to see, were not one of those compositions of the great master that had been lost or forgotten, so striking appeared to him its family likeness." These copies of Michael Angelo, eleven in number, from the Vatican, and the five from the cartoons of Raphael, now in Kensington Museum, were executed by Baudry as preparation, to get his hand in" and bring back his mind to the grand style of the masters before drawing the first sketch for the Opera. For the dance, we have the mad dance of the

Menades about the torn body of Orpheus; the stately dance of the Priests of Cybele about baby Jupiter lustily crying in his nurse's arms; and the wicked dance of the Daughter of Herodias, where, in the background, is seen a servant with the charger to receive ber wages. Is this last rather for rony or sarcasm, or a warning dance to youths with little indeed of Baptist asceticism in them) who sometimes lose their heads with the ladies of the corps de ballet ! It is noticeable at any rate, and to the honor of the artist, that in none of these decorations, where he is constantly dealing with the nude figure, does grace ever lapse into lasciviousness, or even into that delicate veluptuousness in which the winter of la Perle et l'Onde has sometimes indulged.

Salomé indeed is not just an austere beauty, but though painted, is no painted beauty with provocative smiles, like the wriggling, jerking gymnasts of the modern ballet. In the Judgment of Paris as the triumph of perfect beauty, the highest aim of all art, and in the fall of vain, pretentious, Marsyas, we see the defeat of sham by "the victory of the FROM THE REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE. ideal over base sentiment and coarse realism, opened by the divine genius of Apollo." Although all the subjects of these pictures are of the oldest and oftenest painted, it is astonishing with what new life and fresh interest Baudry's original treatment

has endowed them. This brings me to say a word of what some faultfinders have already begun to say. They censure him for not treating his classic subjects classically enough. They object that his personages of ancient story are types and portraits (more or less idealized) of modern French people. In fact, a guide who knows the different worlds of Paris will point you out by name, on the walls of the Beaux Arts, dozens of cotemporary Parisians, professional models, artistes of the theaters, ladies of the fashionable world, personal friends of the artist and their children, draped in flowing costume or not much draped. To this objection the answer is that the new opera is modern, and Mr. Baudry is modern, and has done as the old masters did, not copied from the old masters (zealously and lovingly as he has studied them), but looked on nature about him for his models. If he is not classic in the hard-lined, cold-dead, archæological sense, it is from lack of pedantry not of learning.

Any final judgment of the whole work must be premature, for the simple reason that no one has yet seen it as a whole except the artist himself in the chambers of his brain. the Ecole des Beaux Arts, we see but the membra disjects of his composition. Here are colossal figures at but a few feet distance. Great canvases intended for the plane ceiling and curved surfaces are hung on the unornamented vertical walls of two different rooms. When the thirty separate parts of this one grand composition can be viewed in the harmonizing, unifying conditions of surface, relative distances, point of view, light, and of the grand architectural frame-work to and from which they are to lend and borrow completeness (and not until they can be studied in the fullness of all these calculated conditions), we shall first fairly see the work and have a right to criticize the workman. Meantime, in this imperfect state it shows us quite enough to admire and be thankful for; it is exceptional, if not unique, among decorative paintings of our day, and for large purpose surely not all failure in execu-

There are still to mention the small pictures, measuring only seven feet by six, that are above the ten doors and windows, representing, by as many groups of children of colossal size, with the appropriate instruments, from the ancient Egyptian sistra to the modern French drum and bugle, the instrumental music of as many ancient and modern nations. No American youths appear among these groups; yet might not our banjo claim an entry ? Perhaps we are simply left out for want of an eleventh door or window. Eight Muses only have presence in the Fourt public of the Opera, there being but so many spaces between the five windows in front and the five corresponding doors opposite. Polhymnia, as the muse ast likely to be called by librettists, composers or ballet-masters, is the muse chosen not to be admitted. All the same, the omission affects one as with a sense of discord.

THE WOLFE MEMORIAL GIFT.

VALUABLE ADDITIONS TO THE COLLECTION AND LI-BRARY OF THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY.

The American Museum of Natural History has lately received the Wolfe memorial gift, which con-ists of the collection of shells gathered by Dr. John C. Jay of Rye, together with his library of conchological works. The collection contains over 10,000 species and probably 50,000 varieties of shells, and, with the books. affords, in the language of Prof. Bickmore, Curator of the Museum, "an opportunity for studying shells unequaled in America, and conveys a greater idea of the wonders and beauties of the shell creation than New-Yorkers have ever had a chance of seeing." The work of unpacking the boxes containing the col lection has been begun, and about one-third have been put on exhibition. The shells will occupy the floorcases in the hall on the second floor of the arsenal building. The minerals formerly there have been removed to make room for the new collection. Only the bivalve shells have thus far been unboxed, and afford some idea of the richness and beauty of form in conchological specimens, though it is reserved for the univalve shells soon to be placed on exhibition to give a suitable repre-Descending now from this high heaven of abstrac centation of the beauties of color in the same field. tion, where the painter has expressed his general mong the shells are magnificent specimens of Pholas which the hving animal bored. of mammoth specimens of teredo-the ship-wormthough not properly included among the shells are also here. Adjacent are enormous specimens allied to the serpula. These are worm-like tubes as large as a ram's horn and almost as tortuous. In the next case are gigantic clam shells, each one holding about three pints. They are now found in a fossil condition on the coast of North Carolina, and it has been an open question as to whether they were not extinct. These specimens, however, are not fossil. The technical name they bear is Panopasa. They are the "clams of ancient times." Purther on is a case containing the flat shells of the telling group, with their fridescence of light and white or soft-tinted bues. Next come the specimens of Donax, many marked with fine radiations and fringes. The Cytherea-spiked shells-are here in great abundance, with rows of unbroken spikes, beautifully marked. The Cardita or heart-shaped shells, present in great numbers, afford a pleasing sight, as do the specimens of Archia. Then come the cases of fresh-water shells, which form a particularly rich and varied exhibition. The abundance and variety of such shells in this coun try may be known from the fact that nine-tenths of all the species of fresh water mussels are found in America. The great families are Unio and Anodonia. Of marine shells, again, large and perfect specimens of the hammer-oyster, the fan shell, and the ridged shell of the pecten are found. The display of Patelia, so called from their resemblance to the small flat bone

oon as possible.

The library attached to the collection has been col-The library attached to the collection has been collected with reference mainly to the study of conclosing, though it contains many volumes relating to kindred studies. It contains many volumes relating to kindred studies. It contains probably every book treating of shells published before 1861, and most of those which have since been issued. It also contains full sels of the transactions of all the prominent learned societies, prominent among which are the transactions of the London Zoological Society up to 1873. The books of the library are in the Latin, French, German, English, Datch and other languages, are well bound and contain beautiful steel and copper plate impressions, colored by hand. Most of them also are choice copies on large paper.

paper.

Among the books is one of the original copies of "Wilson's American Oculthology." There are also copies of reports of French voyages with attases of beautifully colored plates, with letter press volumes scarcely less large. The "Voyage of the Coquille;" the "Voyage Around the World;" the "Voyage of the Astrolabe;" the "Voyage to Meroe, on the White Ses," by Callhaud, Palis, 1823; and, fluest of all, the "Voyage of the Astrolabe and Zeise to the South Pole and Oceanica," Paris, 1842 to 1855, are particularly colorable than a list the "Voyage Around the World. Pole and Oceanica," Paris, 1842 to 1855, are particularly noteworthy, as is also the "Voyage Around the World of the French Frigate Venus," Among other volumes are works giving the results of Wilcze's and other American exploring expeditions, Delessert's "Recueil de Coquilles," Paris, 1841; the four large foilos of Ferussac and Deshayes on shells, and the same number of volumes of Scha's plates of shells; "Muetler's Natural History Cabinet," 2 vols., 1795; "Muetler's Natural History Cabinet," 2 vols., 1795; "Muetler's Natural History Obenmark and Sweden," 2 vols., 18.5; "Martin's Conchological Cabinet," 11 vols.; "Guatler's Index Testarum," "Linacus's Systema Naturae inter's Index Testarum," "Linacus's Systema Naturae and "Zodiogica Daules," 1788, besides the recent works of American and foreign authors, with pome exceedingly rare pamphiets of Rainesque and others. The whole collection is one pleasing to the antiquary as well as the

collection is one pleasing to the antiquary as well as the scientist.

The attendance at the Museum is now exceedingly large, thousands visiting and examining the cellections every day, slogly and in large parties. The great interest mainfested in the Museum is proved by the fact that the annual membership has increased since January from 350 to nearly 1,000, and it is expected that the number will reach 2,000 by next Spring. Work on the new building in Manhattan-square is proceeding rapidly, and the roof will be finished before the Winter sets in. It is expected to be ready for occupancy in the Spring.

AN ERROR IN MR. CONKLING'S SPEECH.

to the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: A mistake occurs in your report of Senator Conkling's speech, which I hope you will see corrected. In the paragraph referring to the Temperance movement, as reported, it is: "A somewhat active ance movement, as reported, it is. A somewhat active life, much of it passed in purchasing land and attending courts." It should read, "much of it spent, as prosecuting atterney, in attending courts, &c." I shoot near him, and recollect the passage as he spoke it, and the sense itself indicates the mistake,

New York, Sept. 24, 1374.